

IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete listing of the claims.

1. (Original) A wireless communication system, comprising:
a programmable interface operable to communicate data from a device to a transmitter in accordance with a communication protocol; and
a programming system selectively coupleable to the interface to enable a wireless communication system user to program the interface to communicate with any one of a plurality of devices using different communication protocols to communicate data.

2. (Original) The system as recited in claim 1, wherein the interface is operable to be programmed to communicate with a first device using a first communication protocol and then to be re-programmed to communicate with a second device using a second communication protocol.

3. (Original) The system as recited in claim 2, wherein the programming system comprises a computer system that enables a user to direct the selection of programming provided to the interface.

4. (Original) The system as recited in claim 3, wherein the programming system comprises a database of devices and programming to enable the interface to communicate with a device in the database of devices.

5. (Original) The system as recited in claim 1, wherein the interface comprises a first electrical connector configured for mating engagement with an external electrical connector selectively coupleable to the programming system.

6. (Original) The system as recited in claim as recited in claim 1, wherein the transmitter comprises a transponder operable to receive a first signal at a first frequency and to transmit a second signal at a second frequency.

7. (Original) The system as recited in claim 1, wherein the interface comprises a second electrical connector configured for mating engagement with the transmitter.

8. (Original) The system as recited in claim 1, further comprising a cell controller and an antenna coupled to the cell controller, wherein the antenna is operable to transmit a first signal to the transmitter and to receive a second signal from the transmitter.

9. (Original) The system as recited in claim 1, wherein the interface comprises memory to store the programming provided by the programming system.

10. (Original) The system as recited in claim 9, wherein the interface further comprises a processor coupled to the device and to memory, wherein the processor executes the programming stored in memory to communicate device data to the transmitter.

11. (Original) The system as recited in claim 8, wherein the cell controller is coupled to an information system.

12. (Original) The system as recited in claim 6, wherein the interface and the transmitter are housed within a single housing.

13-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Original) A wireless communication system, comprising:
a cell controller;

a plurality of antennas electrically coupled to the cell controller, each antenna being operable to transmit a first signal and to receive a second signal;

a transmitter operable to receive the first signal and to transmit the second signal;
and

an interface electrically coupled between an asset and a transmitter to communicate asset data to the transmitter for transmission as a portion of the second signal, wherein the interface is programmable by a wireless communication system user to enable the interface to communicate with an asset and a transmitter using different communication protocols.

19. (Original) The system as recited in claim 18, further comprising a programming unit operable to program the interface to communicate using a selected communication protocol.

20. (Original) The system as recited in claim 19, wherein the communication protocol is selected by selecting a desired asset to communicate with the interface.

21. (Original) The system as recited in claim 18, wherein the asset data is an operating parameter of the asset.

22. (Original) The system as recited in claim 21, wherein the operating parameter is the operating status of the asset.

23. (Original) The system as recited in claim 18, wherein the transmitter and interface are integrated into a single unit.

24-33. (Cancelled)

34. (Previously presented) A system comprising:

a programmable interface configured to communicate data from a medical device in a medical facility to a transmitter in accordance with a communication protocol via a wireless link; and

a programming system configured to:

selectively couple with the programmable interface;

facilitate communication with the programmable interface by a user of the programming station; and

program the programmable interface to communicate with any one of a plurality of medical devices associated with a medical facility using different communication protocols.

35. (Previously presented) The system as recited in claim 34, wherein the communication protocol is selected by selecting a desired asset to communicate with the programmable interface.

36. (Previously presented) The system as recited in claim 35, wherein the desired asset is a wheelchair.

37. (Previously presented) The system as recited in claim 35, wherein the desired asset is a heart monitor.

38. (Previously presented) The system as recited in claim 35, wherein the desired asset is a imaging station.

39. (Previously presented) The system as recited in claim 34, wherein the plurality of medical devices are associated with at least two different manufacturers.

40. (Previously presented) The system as recited in claim 34, wherein the user selects the one of the plurality of medical devices from a database and the programming

station programs the programmable interface with the appropriate communications protocol based on the selected one of the plurality of medical devices.

41. (Previously presented) The system as recited in claim 40, further comprising:

a cell controller;
at least one antenna coupled to the cell controller; and
a hospital information system coupled to the cell controller and the database, wherein the cell controller is operable to communicate with the transmitter.

42. (Previously presented) A system, comprising:
a cell controller;
a plurality of antennas electrically coupled to the cell controller, each of the plurality of antennas being operable to transmit a first signal and to receive a second signal;
a transmitter operable to receive the first signal and to transmit the second signal;
and

an interface electrically coupled between a medical asset and a transmitter to communicate asset data to the transmitter for transmission as a portion of the second signal, wherein the interface is programmable by a user to enable the interface to communicate with any of a plurality of medical assets and a transmitter using different communication protocols and the communication protocol is selected by selecting a desired asset to communicate with the interface.